

March 20, 2007

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 28, 2007
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage underneath the building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

c: MAG Management Committee

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
March 28, 2007**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. Information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (*).	5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*5A. <u>Approval of the February 28, 2007 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approval of the February 28, 2007 meeting minutes.
---	---

TRANSPORTATION ITEM***5B. Response to U.S. Department of Transportation Congestion Initiative**

On December 8, 2006, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued a notice of solicitation for applications to enter into urban partnership agreements (UPA) as part of the Congestion Initiative to demonstrate strategies for reducing traffic congestion. A program has been announced under the UPA that would provide funding support for carrying out operational tests using Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) applications to mitigate congestion. Approximately \$100 million will be made available nationwide for the implementation of selected ITS projects over three years. Two applications are being prepared by a team led by the Arizona Department of Transportation and MAG. The first would seek to qualify the MAG region as an Urban Partner, and the second would seek funds for a corridor project for utilizing ITS technology solutions to better manage the travel demand and traffic flow in the I-10 corridor from I-17 to Loop 303. The USDOT grant is estimated to be in the range of \$10 to \$15 million. The proposed concept for the I-10 Integrated Corridor Management System was reviewed and recommended by the MAG ITS Committee and the MAG Management Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5B. Approval of forwarding the proposed concept for the I-10 Integrated Corridor Management System to the USDOT for consideration.

AIR QUALITY ITEMS***5C. Consultation on Proposed Transportation Conformity Processes for the 2007 MAG Conformity Analysis**

Federal and State conformity regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies on proposed processes for the conformity analysis on the transportation improvement program and transportation plan. On March 6, 2007, MAG distributed for interagency consultation the conformity processes on the selection of proposed models, associated

5C. Consultation.

methods, and assumptions, identification of exempt projects, and ensuring the expeditious implementation of transportation control measures. The proposed processes will be applied in the upcoming conformity analysis for the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2007 Update. Comments regarding this material are requested by March 23, 2007. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5D. Consultation on Potentially Regionally Significant Projects of the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Federal and State conformity regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies regarding which transportation projects will be considered "regionally significant" for the purposes of regional emissions analysis. On March 6, 2007, MAG distributed for interagency consultation the regionally significant projects subject to conformity requirements. Comments on the list of potentially regionally significant projects are requested by March 23, 2007. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. Consultation.

GENERAL ITEMS

*5E. Regional Economic and Growth Outcomes Project

In December 2002, the Regional Council approved a regional development scope of work. Since that time, staff has initiated and completed the components of the scope of work. With these projects now complete, staff is recommending that several tasks either be discontinued or consolidated into a single work area. This project, Regional Economic and Growth Outcomes (REGO), would combine significant components of various projects including socioeconomic projections, Building a Quality Regional Community, Regionally Significant Development Projects, and the

5E. Approval of the proposed Regional Economic and Growth Outcomes Work Plan.

Regional Report. The REGO analysis would include data collection, job center analysis, describing and analyzing sub regions and various regional analyses as needed. The information and analysis from this project would be available in calendar year 2007. The MAG Management Committee recommended approval of this item. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5F. Approval of the July 1, 2006 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates

On February 27, 2007, the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee (POPTAC) recommended approval of the July 1, 2006 Municipality Resident Population Updates. The Updates are used to allocate approximately \$23 million in lottery funds, set expenditure limitations, and develop local budgets. The updates were prepared based on the Arizona Department of Economic Security's (DES) July 1, 2006 Maricopa County Resident Population Updates, data from the 2005 Census Survey, and a methodology approved by MAG's POPTAC. If approved, these July 1, 2006 updates for Maricopa County and municipalities will replace the Interim Population Updates that were provided to the Economic Estimates Commission in December of last year. The MAG Management Committee recommended approval of this item. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5F. Approval of the July 1, 2006 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEM

6. Consultant Selection for the Building a Quality Arizona: Statewide Intrastate Mobility Reconnaissance Study

On December 13, 2006, the Regional Council approved moving forward with the Statewide Intrastate Mobility Reconnaissance Study that was recommended by the Arizona COG/MPO Chairs and Directors. The Scope of Work was distributed for review by the COG/MPO Directors and business leaders. The Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised on January 18,

6. Approval of the selection of the firm DMJM Harris to provide consulting services related to the Building a Quality Arizona: Statewide Intrastate Mobility Reconnaissance Study for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

2007 and one proposal was received. The COG/MPO Chairs and Directors will meet on March 23, 2007 to hear a presentation from the recommended consultant. It is anticipated that the COG/MPO Chairs and Directors may make a recommendation to the MAG Regional Council on the consultant. In addition, a presentation will be provided on the Building a Quality Arizona: Statewide Intrastate Mobility Reconnaissance Study. Please refer to the enclosed material.

AIR QUALITY ITEM

7. Suggested List of Measures for the Five Percent Plan for PM-10

Since December 7, 2006, the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee has been reviewing a Preliminary Draft Comprehensive List of Measures to Reduce PM-10 Particulate Matter. On March 6, 2007, the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of a Suggested List of Measures. On March 14, 2007, the Management Committee recommended approval of the Suggested List of Measures. If these measures are approved by the Regional Council, implementing agencies will be requested to make legally binding commitments to implement measures which they deem appropriate for their jurisdictions. Local government commitments will be needed by June 15, 2007. The Five Percent Plan for PM-10 is required to be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency by December 31, 2007. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Approval of the Suggested List of Measures to Reduce PM-10 Particulate Matter.

GENERAL ITEMS

8. Authorization to Enter Into a Memorandum of Understanding for the Regional Office Center and to Execute a 30-Year MAG Lease

At the February 28, 2007 MAG Regional Council meeting, an overview was provided on the proposed Regional Office Center. It was noted at the meeting that a workshop was being scheduled to provide an opportunity for the MAG member agencies and the partnering agencies on

8. Authorize MAG to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for the Regional Office Center with the Phoenix Industrial Development Authority and the Regional Office Center LLC; and to execute a lease for 30 years for the MAG space in the Regional Office Center, estimated at 113,430 total square feet, for an estimated cost of approximately \$39,772,272 over thirty years.

the building to receive detailed information on the project. The workshop was held on March 5th where staff and consultants provided detailed financial spreadsheets on the Regional Office Center. On March 14, 2007, the MAG Management Committee recommended authorizing MAG to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding and to execute a lease agreement for the Regional Office Center. On March 16, 2007, the Valley Metro Board approved negotiating a contract to acquire land and construct an office building. On March 20, 2007, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee recommended proceeding with the project. A meeting with the Valley Metro Rail agency is scheduled for April 10, 2007. From these discussions additional questions are being explored. One of these questions is the tax status of the agencies. The tax status of the entities may impact whether property tax will need to be paid. To date, the financial analysis is conservative, assuming that all agencies would be paying approximately \$3.00 per square foot in property tax. This is now under review by an attorney who specializes in this area. Another question under review is whether the City of Phoenix would consider using a mechanism to abate a portion of the property tax (Government Property Lease Excise Tax). Also, whether the City of Phoenix would consider providing any relief on the fees and taxes associated with the project. A meeting with the City of Phoenix has been scheduled to discuss these matters. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Discussion of the Draft FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and Expenditures and Projects in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. This presentation and review of the draft FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual

9. Input on the development of the FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

Budget represents the budget document development to-date. The elements of the budget document are about 80 percent complete. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest.

11. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

10. Information, discussion and possible action.

11. Information.